

first time to directly administer foster care and adoption programs offered by the Federal government, allowing tribes to continue strengthening their communities by ensuring safe and caring homes for their Native children.

Congress passed the Native American \$1 Coin Act, which recognizes the contributions of Native Americans to the development of the United States through an annually changing image on the reverse of the Sakakawea \$1 coin that is now in circulation.

Congress also passed into law a joint resolution designating November 28, 2008 as Native American Heritage Day, honoring the contributions and achievements of our First Americans.

The Treaty of Fort Laramie and other treaties acknowledged the specific obligations that the United States owes to the Tribes located in my State of North Dakota. Much has been done this Congress to begin to fulfill this legal responsibility and the more general trust responsibility that Congress owes to all Indian Tribes.

However, as is evident with Congress' failure to pass the Indian Health Care Improvement Act of 2008, much still remains to be done. The resolution before the Senate today would simply honor the hard work, traditions, culture, and contribution of the First Americans.

I ask that this resolution be adopted quickly and that it act as an encouragement to all people of the United States to observe the month of November as National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 720—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. SPECTER) submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 720

Whereas approximately 37,680 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer this year in the United States;

Whereas pancreatic cancer is the 4th most common cause of cancer death in the United States;

Whereas Randolph ("Randy") Frederick Pausch, who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2006, delivered his "Last Lecture" on September 18, 2007, which gave a voice to victims of pancreatic cancer, and inspired people to live life to the fullest;

Whereas the lecture by and advocacy of Randy Pausch have brought, and will continue to bring, renewed advocacy and commitment to the field of pancreatic cancer research and treatment;

Whereas the lecture by and advocacy of Randy Pausch have touched countless people throughout the United States and the world and encouraged them to change their lives for the better;

Whereas 75 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis and only 5 percent survive more than 5 years, making pancreatic cancer the deadliest of any cancer;

Whereas there has been no significant improvement in survival rates in the last 30

years and pancreatic cancer research is still in the earliest scientific stages;

Whereas there are no early detection methods and minimal treatment options for pancreatic cancer;

Whereas when symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is generally too late for an optimistic prognosis, and the average survival rate of those diagnosed with metastasis of the disease is only 3 to 6 months;

Whereas the incidence rate of pancreatic cancer is 40 to 50 percent higher in African Americans than in other ethnic groups; and

Whereas it would be appropriate to observe November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month to educate communities across the Nation about pancreatic cancer and the need for research funding, early detection methods, effective treatments, and treatment programs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 106—COMMENDING THE GOVERNMENT OF SWITZERLAND FOR ONGOING ASSISTANCE IN THE CASE OF ROBERT LEVINSON, URING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO INTENSIFY COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SWITZERLAND AND THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ON THE CASE OF ROBERT LEVINSON, AND EXPRESSING SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF ROBERT LEVINSON

Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 106

Whereas United States citizen Robert Levinson is a retired agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a resident of Florida, the husband of Christine Levinson, and father of their 7 children;

Whereas Robert Levinson traveled from Dubai to Kish Island, Iran, on March 8, 2007;

Whereas, after traveling to Kish Island and checking into the Hotel Maryam, he disappeared on March 9, 2007;

Whereas neither his family nor the United States Government has received further information on his fate or whereabouts;

Whereas March 9, 2009, marks the second anniversary of the disappearance of Robert Levinson;

Whereas the Government of Switzerland, which has served as Protecting Power for the United States in the Islamic Republic of Iran in the absence of diplomatic relations between the United States Government and the Government of Iran since 1980, has continuously pressed the Government of Iran on the case of Robert Levinson and lent vital assistance and support to the Levinson family during their December 2007 visit to Iran;

Whereas officials of the Government of Iran promised their continued assistance to the relatives of Robert Levinson during the visit of the family to the Islamic Republic of Iran in December 2007; and

Whereas the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, stated during an interview with NBC News broadcast on July 28, 2008, that officials of the Government of Iran were willing to cooperate with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the search for Robert Levinson: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) commends the Embassy of Switzerland in Tehran and the Government of Switzerland for the ongoing assistance to the United States Government and to the family of Robert Levinson, particularly during the visit by Christine Levinson and other relatives to Iran in December 2007;

(2) expresses appreciation for efforts by Iranian officials to ensure the safety of the family of Robert Levinson during their December 2007 visit to Iran, as well as for the promise of continued assistance;

(3) urges the Government of Iran, as a humanitarian gesture, to intensify its cooperation on the case of Robert Levinson with the Embassy of Switzerland in Tehran and to share the results of its investigation into the disappearance of Robert Levinson with the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

(4) urges the President and the allies of the United States to engage with officials of the Government of Iran to raise the case of Robert Levinson at every opportunity, notwithstanding other serious disagreements the United States Government has had with the Government of Iran on a broad array of issues, including human rights, the nuclear program of Iran, the Middle East peace process, regional stability, and international terrorism; and

(5) expresses sympathy to the family of Robert Levinson during this trying period.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I am introducing a resolution in the Senate that touches on one of the tragic cases of a Floridian, Bob Levinson, who has been missing in Iran since he visited Kish Island off the coast of Iran in the Persian Gulf in early 2007. I have spoken on this issue ad infinitum before to call the attention of the Congress to the plight of Mr. Levinson as well as to the difficulties that are faced by his wife Christine and their seven children.

Bob Levinson, a businessman and a former FBI agent, vanished after checking out of his hotel on the resort island of Kish on March 9, 2007. It is no doubt the wish of everyone who knows this man that Bob Levinson be reunited with his loved ones. It has been very difficult to get information out of the Government of Iran. The State Department has delivered a number of requests for information and cooperation to the Iranian Government through our diplomatic intermediary, which is the Government of Switzerland. Unfortunately, Iran continues to claim it has no information on the fate of Bob Levinson.

Mrs. Levinson and her eldest son, Daniel, and her sister, Ms. Halpin, traveled to Tehran and Kish Island in December of last year in the hopes of finding information about Bob Levinson's disappearance. The Iranian authorities, to their credit, extended courtesies to her and they promised her at the time they would help in the case, but those promises have not been fulfilled.

This resolution I am introducing urges Iranian officials to fulfill their promises of assistance to the Levinsons. It calls for Iranian investigators to meet with the FBI to discuss the Levinson case. It calls for the U.S. Government and our allies to

press Iran on this case at every opportunity and at every level—something I think the U.S. Government is beginning to do. Also, this resolution thanks the Swiss for their continued assistance in the case. It furthermore expresses appreciation for the efforts of Iranian officials who have ensured the safety of the family during their visit of December of last year. This resolution also expresses sympathy to the Levinson family during this trying period. This is a wife and seven children of a missing former FBI agent in the country of Iran, missing now since the early part of 2007.

In this year, on July 28, the President of Iran stated during an interview with NBC that Iranian officials were willing to cooperate with the FBI on this case. Why is the FBI involved? The FBI is involved because he is a former FBI agent. This resolution calls upon the Tehran government to make this meeting happen as soon as possible to discuss the evidence the Iranians have uncovered about Mr. Levinson's disappearance.

Now, I wish to underscore that because on July 28 of this year the President of Iran stated in an NBC interview that Iranian officials were willing to cooperate with the FBI on this case. They have not.

I wish to be blunt. We obviously have serious disagreements with Iran on its nuclear program and a whole range of other issues. I haven't hesitated over the years, as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, the Senate Intelligence Committee, and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, to express my opposition to a number of Tehran's policies—and I will continue to press for change in Iran's positions and activities—but I am calling on the Government of Iran out of human compassion and humanitarian assistance to a family of a wife and seven children to come forth and cooperate in trying to find and get evidence of the whereabouts of Bob Levinson.

We want to see an Iran where individuals are respected, not locked up in Evin Prison—we want to see an Iran that is respected—for signing a petition calling for women's rights. We want to see an Iran that champions the Middle East peace process rather than supporting terrorist groups such as Hamas and Hezbollah. We want to see an Iran whose leaders do not make despicable threats to “wipe Israel off the map.”

We clearly have our differences with Iran, and those differences, especially under a new administration, can start to be bridged with Iran stepping forth with discussions regarding the safe return of an American citizen whose family desperately wishes to be reunited with him, that American citizen being former FBI agent Bob Levinson.

So this resolution calls upon the U.S. Government and our friends and allies to engage with Iranian officials to raise Mr. Levinson's case at every opportunity and at every level. I understand

many of our allies already have raised Mr. Levinson's case on our behalf, and I wish to encourage them to continue to do so. This Senator has done it as well, both publicly and privately, and I will continue to do so.

The resolution I have filed additionally commends the Swiss for their ongoing assistance to the U.S. Government and to the family of the Levinsons. The assistance of the Swiss Ambassador and his staff at the American Interests Section in Tehran was essential during Mrs. Levinson's visits in the past, and will be, I think, to her visits in the future.

I wish to express—the word “sympathy” does not conjure up what I am trying to express to Christine Levinson and to her family. No one should have to experience what they have been through. I have met with her on a number of occasions. She is a loving mother. She is clearly an eloquent advocate. She is a tough fighter on behalf of her husband. She is relentless. She is not going to give up, nor should she. I deem it a great privilege that I may in some little way try to assist her and her family.

I want to bring more of our colleagues into this issue of trying to find Bob Levinson in Iran and get the world's attention focused on this missing American. I am going to ask Mrs. Levinson to come back in January when we reconvene, and I want some of our colleagues to meet her.

Remember, Senators, that as representatives of the American people, that means we have to help individual American citizens in distress. This is clearly a family who is in distress. We cannot—and I believe I can speak for the Senate—we are not going to forget Bob Levinson and his family.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5696. Mr. MARTINEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6867, to provide for additional emergency unemployment compensation; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5697. Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. MARTINEZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6867, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5698. Mr. DORGAN (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. DORGAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3663, to require the Federal Communications Commission to provide for a short-term extension of the analog television broadcasting authority so that essential public safety announcements and digital television transition information may be provided for a short time during the transition to digital television broadcasting.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5696. Mr. MARTINEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6867, to provide for additional emergency unemployment compensation; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF LOAN LIMIT INCREASE.

(a) FANNIE MAE AND FREDDIE MAC.—Section 201(a) of the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-185, 122 Stat. 619) is amended by striking “December 31, 2008” and inserting “December 31, 2009”.

(b) FHA LOANS.—Section 202(a) of the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-185, 122 Stat. 620) is amended by striking “December 31, 2008” and inserting “December 31, 2009”.

SA 5697. Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. MARTINEZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6867, to provide for additional emergency unemployment compensation; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . MANDATORY LOAN GUARANTEES AND CREDIT ENHANCEMENT EFFORTS.

Section 109(a) of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (division A of Public Law 110-343) is amended—

(1) by striking the last sentence;

(2) by striking “To the extent” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) LOAN GUARANTEES AND CREDIT ENHANCEMENTS REQUIRED.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to actions required under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall, not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, designate the Corporation, on a reimbursable basis, to design and carry out a plan to use loan guarantees or credit enhancements to facilitate loan modifications to prevent avoidable foreclosures.

“(B) AGGREGATE AMOUNTS.—The Secretary shall make and fund guarantees and credit enhancements developed under this paragraph in amounts of—

“(i) \$10,000,000,000 in aggregate estimated subsidy costs, and amounts specified under paragraph (2) of section 115(a) shall be reduced by the subsidy cost of any guarantees or credit enhancements funded by the Secretary under this clause; and

“(ii) an additional \$15,000,000,000, in aggregate estimated subsidy costs, and amounts specified under paragraph (3) of section 115(a) shall be reduced by the subsidy cost of any guarantees or credit enhancements funded by the Secretary under this clause.

“(C) CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.—In carrying out this paragraph, the Corporation may use its contracting authority under section 9 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act.”.

SA 5698. Mr. DORGAN (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. DORGAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3663, to require the Federal Communications Commission to provide for a short-term extension of the analog television broadcasting authority so that essential public safety announcements and digital television transition information may be provided for a short time during the transition to digital television broadcasting; as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Short-term Analog Flash and Emergency Readiness Act”.